**Task1 Conversation**

**Present tense:**

1. **Research interest**

I’m mainly interested in political communication. Specifically, I’m interested in examining people’s political attitudes and behaviors in different context, and I also plan to study how emerging technologies impact the political life.

I can take one of my works as example. This year, I wrote a paper with my friends about media trust. We examined how political trust, political interest, and political information channels would impact audience’s trust in Internet news and in newspaper. We did a comparative study in Hong Kong, Taiwan, and mainland China.

And we found that people who have higher political trust in government are more likely to trust newspaper. On the contrary, people who used social media as their main political information channel are more likely to trust Internet news. These are just part of our findings.

1. **What do you do in your free time?**

I’m so into watching movies. I watch movies in the cinemas almost every week. And I have watch three movies during the Thanksgiving.

I would recommend a movie I watched in the Thanksgiving, it’s called Dream Senario.

I have bought a Season Pass membership in Alamo Drafthouse. And now I start to expect my winter holiday.

1. **Tell me about your hometown.**

Nanning, Guangxi. Guangxi lies in the Southwest of China. Vietnam is in the southwest of Guangxi, and Hong Kong is in the southeast of Guangxi. And Nanning is the capital of Guangxi. It’s just like the Austin in Texas.

It used to be titled as the Green City by the UN, because people have planted lost of trees in the city.

And it’s interesting that the weather in Nanning is even hotter than that in Austin. Because it rains a lot in summer, so the weather is hot and wet. And you would feel boiling in summer.

So compared to Nanning, I feel more comfortable about the summer here.

So when people complain about the summer in Austin, I would say, come on, the weather in Austin is not hot, it’s just warm.

**Past tense:**

1. **Tell me about the semester (Past)**

Well, to be honest, graduate school in America is more tiring and more stressful than I imagined. I knew it would be stressful, but I didn’t know it could be so stressful. I have homework and assignments almost every week. It’s quiet different from my study in Hong Kong and Mainland China.

*In China, the semester is longer, it usually lasts from September to January in the second year. Then, we will have a winter holiday and we can celebrate the Chinese New Year.*

But in general, I still enjoy the academic training here. I took classes such as Mass Comm Theory and Intro to Research Methods. I’ve written a full paper and a research proposal. And now, I’m more confident in myself to design and conduct studies. These were all what I expected before I came to UT.

1. **Tell me about the holiday (Thanksgiving)**

Well, during the Thanksgiving, most of the time, I was busy with my homework, writing my final paper.

But I watched three movies in the Alamo Drafthouse Cinema, including the Dream Senario and the Napoleon. And I also went for a walk in Austin and took some pictures.

1. **Do you enjoy Austin?**

I would not use the word “enjoy”. I would say, I start to get used to the life in Austin. Because I personally prefer living in big cities, like Hong Kong. They have a developed public transportation system. you can easily travel to anywhere you want.

But in Austin, if you don’t have a car, you almost can’t go anywhere. It’s especially struggling for me, because I love going out, like taking a walk in city. And now I’m planning to move to somewhere closer to the downtown.

Austin is still a good city though.

1. **Who’s your favorite teacher when you’re in XXX School**

Keely

Unlike other traditional ET, she was young and encouraging, and she really know how to teach English in an interesting way.

E.g., there was a time when she always played Peppa Pig at the beginning of the class, so that we can learn some basic Native English.

And one time, we were learning a new phrase, that was “more than I can do sth.” That’s a so funny and interesting way to learning English.

1. **Family**

My original family is relatively small. It only includes my parents and I. We live together.

But I have a huge family. I have four uncles and two aunts. And I have countless cousin. It’s about, like ten cousin.

You know, one of my favorite TV shows is Modern Family, because it always reminds me of my big and united family in China.

**Future tense:**

1. **Plan for winter holiday.**

* Write more research proposal so that I can submit them for academic conference which is due in Jan.
* Take some statistics class online.
* In addition to there disgusting academic stuff, I will watch more movies, and probably go for a walk and explore the Austin.

1. **Plan after graduation**

After earning my MA degree, I’m going to pursue a Ph.D. in the U.S. In the future, I will look for a professorship at the University. I may go back to Hong Kong to look for a job.

1. **Why HK?**

* I hope to live and work someplace close to my family.
* I love Hong Kong city. It’s a very big city just like NY. It has developed public transportation like the subway, so you can go anywhere without driving a car. And it’s also safe to live in downtown.
* Last but not least, my research still focuses on the context of the Greater Chinese society, including HK and maybe Taiwan. So working in HK will give me a chance to observe the society closely.

**Condition tense:**

以后想吃甜的还是咸的？

想住在小城还是大城？

如果你没有选择现在的专业，你会想学什么专业？